

**Department of Energy**

Washington, DC 20585

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SAFETY BOARD

The Honorable A. J. Eggenberger  
Chairman  
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board  
625 Indiana Avenue, NW, Suite 700  
Washington, DC 20004-2901

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Office of Environmental Management (EM) has completed its portion of Commitment 22D in the updated Department of Energy (DOE) Implementation Plan (IP) to Improve Oversight of Nuclear Operations, dated October 2006. This IP was in response to the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board Recommendation 2004-1, *Oversight of Complex, High-Hazard Nuclear Operations*. Commitment 22D requires field offices with defense nuclear facilities to develop DOE Integrated Safety Management System Descriptions (ISMDSs) that meet the requirements of the new DOE ISMS Manual (DOE M 450.4-1, "Integrated Safety Management System Manual," dated November 1, 2006).

In accordance with the DOE ISMS Manual, field office managers are responsible for developing, approving, maintaining, and implementing field ISMDSs. In May 2007, Assistant Secretary Rispoli directed EM field offices to use the EM ISMDS, issued in April 2007, as a foundation to develop field ISMDSs. All field offices have submitted their approved ISMDSs to EM Headquarters for information, as required by the DOE ISMS Manual. The EM Office of Safety Management and Operations has reviewed these documents and determined that they adequately outline the field offices' approaches to implementing integrated safety management systems.

Copies of ISMDSs for the following field offices have been provided to your staff for information:

- Richland Operations Office
- Office of River Protection
- Savannah River Operations Office
- Carlsbad Field Office
- Idaho Operations Office
- Oak Ridge Office



If you have any comments or questions, please call me at (202) 586-0738 or Mr. Dae Y. Chung, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Safety Management and Operations, at (202) 586-5151.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Owendoff', with a stylized flourish at the end.

James M. Owendoff  
Chief Operations Officer for  
Environmental Management

cc:  
M. Whitaker, HS-1.1